The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Friday, June 9, 1978

Bail Bondsman Beaten, Robbed, By Three Men

Solomon Jones, 38, a bail bondsman for Hughes Bonding Co. on North Second, was beaten and robbed of about $350 by three men early Wednesday when he attempted to surrender a man on a bond.

Sgt. R. D. Oliver of the robbery squad said Jones had gone to meet a man for whom the company had posted bond at Dunlap and Mosby "because his company was going to surrender the man and recall the bond.

"But Jones said when he found the man, there were two other men with him and they beat him up and took the money and his wallet, containing several credit cards."

Oliver said the man being sought by Jones originally was free on bond after being charged with one armed robbery and three attempted armed robberies.

Jones, of 852 Faxon, said the three men beat him with their hands and feet, but he was not injured seriously.

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1978

Bail Bondsman Beaten, Robbed Returning Suspect to Jail

A bail bondsman, who was formerly a bodyguard of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, was beaten and robbed of $350 by a suspect he was attempting to return to jail, police said.

Capt. W.A. Hess said Solomon Jones, an employee of the Hughes Bonding Co., and a former King bodyguard, told officers he attempted to return to jail a robbery suspect who had been released on $5,000 bond.

He said the bond of the suspect, Larry Leverson, who had been arrested on robbery charges, had been canceled by the suspect's mother.

Hess said Jones contacted Leverson and advised him he planned to bring him back to jail.

Hess quoted Jones as saying that when he found Leverson at Dunlap and Mosby, the suspect and a friend beat him severely and robbed him of $350.

"When he came in here to tell us about it he looked terrible," said Hess. "He was all bandaged up and had been beaten real bad."

Hess said Severson, a former security officer for a guard service, was arrested on the charges after a man used his security guard badge to gain entrance to a home and robbed the residents at gunpoint May 16.

"Now we are looking for the suspect again," Hess said.